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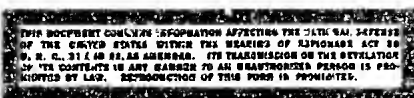
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PROGRESS ON "KOLAROV," "STUDEVA" DAMS,
IRRIGATION PLANS

"KOLAROV" DAM TO MEET IRRIGATION NEEDS -- Sofia, Narodna Mladezh, 5 Aug 51

By 1945, Professor Dimo Velez and Engineer Gogo Gichev had drawn the blueprints for the "Kolarov" Dam.

The dam is to be 45 meters high and 200 meters long at the top. It will bar the flow of the Kriva River and will contribute to the formation of a lake which will cover an area of 5,000 decares. Through canals and tunnels the waters of the Beglishka, the Semiza, the Snysuza, and the Kara Chomek rivers will flow into the lake.

During 1946, huts were built to house more than 1,000 workers and technical and administrative personnel. A hydroelectric power plant with a capacity of 160 kilowatts was also erected for the needs of the construction machines. At the end of the year, the digging began for laying the foundation of the wall itself.

Engineer Apostol Pashev and his assistants, Engineers Nikov and Peev, were among those working at the dam.

On 12 April 1949 the builders attempted a trial filling of the lake to discover any possible defects. It was discovered that there were serious defects in the rhyolitic rock under the dam's wall.

After the first trial filling, the waters of the Kriva River began to fill the lake. Every day, the water level in the lake rose 23 centimeters.

Some 300,000 decares of land in the Plovdiv and Krichim plains will be irrigated. Every decare will be irrigated with 500 cubic meters of water. Previously 4,000 freight cars would have been required to transport the average crop of the Plovdiv Plain. In 1952, with the assured seasonal supply of 500 cubic meters of water per decare, the yield from each decare will increase threefold. In the future, not just 4,000, but thousands of new cars will be necessary to transport the agricultural products of the Plovdiv Plain.

- 1 -

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After the construction of the "Rodopi" Hydroelectric Combine, which will gather the waters coming from the central part of the Rhodope Mountains, the water needs of the entire Thracian province will be satisfied with more than 1,500,000,000 cubic meters of accumulated water. There will be sufficient water for irrigating the plain between Pazardzhik and Svilengrad. The electric power produced by the hydroelectric power plants /in the area/ will be increased ten times. Within 10 years 20 times more electric power will be obtainable from the "Rodopi" Hydroelectric Combine than was produced in the entire country before 9 September 1944.

"STUDENA" DAM UNDER CONSTRUCTION -- Sofia, Otechestven Front, 26 Dec 51

The "Studena" Dam, which is being built with the assistance of Soviet Professor Moysayev and Engineer Lofitsk'y, will hold back more than 36 million cubic meters of water. An enormous lake will be formed. The lands of Vitoshko and Krapets villages and of some small hamlets will be submerged by the water.

Thousands of decares of land will be irrigated. To utilize the water of the dam most efficiently, and electric power plant will be built there.

Engineer Kriv Velichkov is the director of the dam and Smilev Pavlov is the party secretary.

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- 2 -

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